



Department of  
**AGRICULTURE  
FISHERIES &  
FORESTRY -  
AUSTRALIA**



16 July 2002

## **ANIMAL BIOSECURITY POLICY MEMORANDUM 2002/36**

### **IMPORT RISK ANALYSIS: IMPORTATION OF HONEYBEE SEMEN FROM ALL COUNTRIES**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF SCOPE, TIMETABLE AND APPROACH**

This Animal Biosecurity Policy Memorandum (ABPM) provides confirmation of the scope, indicative timetable and approach for the import risk analysis (IRA) for the importation of honeybee semen from all countries. An appeal opportunity is provided and appeals should be received by 19 August 2002.

ABPM 2002/29 proposed the scope, indicative timetable and approach for the IRA. The IRA will consider diseases associated with honeybee semen (*Apis mellifera*), and subject to no unforeseen difficulties will take approximately 18 months to two years. We also proposed a team of veterinary officers from within Animal Biosecurity should conduct the IRA – the team has experience in a range of relevant diseases, epidemiology and risk analysis, and has developed relevant expertise through similar analyses.

No stakeholder responded to ABPM 2002/29.

Following consideration of ABPM 2002/29 and the absence of stakeholder comments, the Executive Manager of Biosecurity Australia has confirmed the scope, indicative timetable and approach as set out above.

#### **Next steps**

As previously advised, the review of the IRA process is well advanced. The review is expected to be finalised later this year. One of the main equity issues arising from the review is the need to extend the opportunity for stakeholders to appeal at an early stage in an IRA. The current draft of the IRA process, circulated in November 2001, allows for stakeholders to appeal the Executive Manager's determination on the scope, indicative timetable and approach, including the IRA team. In light of the general acceptance of this appeal step, we are providing stakeholders with the opportunity to appeal the Executive Manager's determination on these matters for this IRA. Stakeholders must give reasons for their appeal. Appeals should be sent to the following address by close of business on 19 August 2002:

IRA Appeals  
Mr Geoff Gorrie  
Deputy Secretary  
AFFA  
GPO Box 858  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Edmund Barton Building  
Barton ACT  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
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ABN 24 113 085 695

The Deputy Secretary will take into account the following matters in making a determination on any appeal:

- . whether the scope of the IRA is reasonable (with regard to the proposal or application, and any current related work) and is an efficient use of public resources;
- . whether the timetable will allow adequate opportunity for stakeholder input;
- . whether the nominated IRA team membership will provide appropriate expertise to consider all relevant scientific issues; and
- . any other matter that the Deputy Secretary may think is relevant.

### **Confidentiality**

Respondents are advised that, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Privacy Act 1988*, all submissions received in response to Animal Biosecurity Policy Memoranda will be publicly available and may be listed or referred to in any papers or reports prepared on the subject matter of the Memoranda.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reveal the identity of a respondent unless a request for anonymity accompanies the submission. Where a request for anonymity does not accompany the submission the respondent will be taken to have consented to the disclosure of his or her identity for the purposes of Information Privacy Principle 11 of the Privacy Act.

The contents of the submission will not be treated as confidential unless they are marked 'confidential' and they are capable of being classified as such in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

PETER BEERS  
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Animal Biosecurity

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